

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, ET, US
SUBJECT: CONTINUED ANTI-U.S. PRESS POLEMICS

1. GOVERNMENT-OWNED "ETHIOPIAN HERALD" CARRIED TWO ARTICLES FEBRUARY 22, 1978 WHICH CONTINUED USUAL ANTI-U.S. AND ANTI-NATO POLEMICS. LENGTHY ARTICLE, WITHOUT BY-LINE BUT CREDITED AT END TO NEWS AGENCY, IDENTIFIED AS APN, CHARGED AMERICAN AUTHORITIES WITH "VAINLY TRYING TO CONVINCE WORLD PUBLIC THAT U.S. IS NEITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SUPPLYING SOMALIA WITH ARMS". ARTICLE CONTINUED WITH REVIEW OF U.S. LAW WHICH PROSCRIBES THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFER OF U.S. WEAPONS WITHOUT U.S. APPROVAL, AND STATED THAT THE FACT THAT LARGE CONSIGNMENTS OF U.S. MADE-M-48 TANKS AND OTHER ARMS FROM IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT SOMALIA THAT "PRESIDENT CARTER GAVE HIS BLESSING TO THAT UNDERTAKING." ARTICLE NOTED THAT IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA ARE ACTUALLY TURNING INTO U.S. AGENTS IN HORN OF AFRICA.

2. "ETHIOPIAN HERALD" ALSO CARRIED FRONT PAGE INTERVIEW WITH GDR JOURNALIST, HARRY CZEPUCK, VICE-PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF JOURNALISTS, WHO CLAIMED THAT "WE FIRMLY CONDEMN U.S. AND FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOR THEIR PLOTS TO REGAIN THEIR
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LOST POSITION IN ETHIOPIA BY ATTACKING THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION FROM OUTSIDE."

3. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT OWNED PRESS WAS SURPRISINGLY FREE OF ETHIOPIAN-AUTHORED ANTI-U.S. AND ANTI-WESTERN RHETORIC, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY VIEWS CONTINUED PUBLICATION OF ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA FROM OTHER SOURCES AS

INDICATION THAT EPMG NOT QUITE SURE HOW TO TREAT
RECENTLY RESURRECTED HIGH-LEVEL ETHIOPIAN-U.S. DIALOGUE
AND MAY BE JUST WAITING FOR FURTHER SIGNALS AS TO
U.S. POSITION ON CONFLICT IN HORN OF AFRICA.
MATHERON

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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